



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## 05/15/2013 Minutes

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of May 15, 2013

Board members attending were Jack Johnson, Christopher Tonkin, Stephan Miller, Ron Sender, Doug Greenfield, and Phil Goff. Scott Smith was absent. Also present were Joey Glushko, Sam Milton, Pam Edwards, Stephen Quinn and Maggie Stanley.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

\*Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the April meeting were approved after amendments were made.

Introductions. We all introduced ourselves for the benefit of those attending for the first time.

Spring Outreach on the Bikeway. The Selectmen have approved our Bikeway Outreach which will take place on the Bikeway near Linwood Circle on June 8 from 10-2. Christopher asked for volunteers and there were enough so the event will be fully staffed. Stephan suggested that we have some literature to hand out. Jack asked if the date can be changed if it rains because the event requires sanction by the Selectmen. Joey answered that this could probably be done. Phil suggested that we do this proactively.

Mass. Ave. paving projects. Phil told us that the design guide drawn up by ABAC, TAC and the DPW will be used to determine the striping plan on the portions of Mass Ave. that are being repaved this summer. Phil is advocating for bike lanes for as much of the distance as possible. Jack brought up the fact that the State is currently repaving a portion of the Mystic Valley Parkway. Phil volunteered to see to it that that stretch is properly lined.

CLAMP (Clean Air and Mobility Program) Project. We discussed the results of the recent public hearing about this project. We felt that the consensus of that hearing was that we should eliminate the parking on one side of Mass. Ave. from the corner of Pleasant St. to Swan Pl. and rethink the bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Most of us agreed with that summary. Christopher reminded us that the brick sidewalk along the Uncle Sam Park is very difficult for the elderly and disabled to negotiate so they are likely to use the cycle track if it is built. Phil asked if ABAC should make a comment about the final design. We told him that we had participated in the design early in the project but had very little say in the selection of the current design.

Recreational Trails Grant Program (RTG). Joey showed us the materials that were presented at the open house held in Lexington on May 5. She also summarized the suggestions that were made at the event. The new Bikeway Brochure has gone to the printer and should be available for distribution in June. She also told us that the Arlington Economic Development Group is working on a map with broader coverage of the Town.

Bikeway cleanup. Ron asked if there is a coordinating group for town cleanups. No one knew the answer. Stephan told us that the turnout for this event has been declining every year for the past four years. He thinks that this is due to the fact that we are having warmer weather in the early spring and other, competing events, are being scheduled earlier. Stephan proposed moving the date to the third weekend in April to avoid conflicts and the leafing out of the plants which obscures the trash. He also proposed setting the date as soon as possible to get on everyone's calendar early and displaying signs during the event explaining what is going on and asking for future volunteers.

Bike Arlington Tour. The tour will start at the Mystic Lakes Dam on the Winchester side. Christopher told us that we will have a police escort this year. He also told us that there are other entertaining events occurring on the Mystic Lakes on the same day. We then discussed the final route for the tour and last minute publicity.

Facebook Page. Maggie showed us a mock up of a new Facebook page for ABAC. The response was very enthusiastic. We asked her to officially publish the page and will work on new content at future meetings.

### Other topics.

Jack told us that the City of Cambridge has been awarded gold status by the LAB. He suggested that we send them a congratulatory email.

\*We took a vote to send Cambridge an email congratulating them on the LAB Gold Award. The vote was unanimously in favor .

Phil told us that Lexington has put in a tiny park in front the Ride Café on Mass. Ave. in Lexington Center. He asked why Arlington couldn't do something similar.

Bikeway Counts. Joey filled us in on the Bikeway counts taken last Saturday and Tuesday. Counts were down a bit this year because of poor weather. She showed us graphs of the usage during the day and a pie chart of the modal distribution.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

\*Notes that a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller.